

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

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Claims 1-18: (cancelled).

Claim 19 (currently amended): A composition comprising consisting essentially of nimesulide and 17% to 59% by weight of a glyceryl monoolein-solvent-phase, wherein the nimesulide is in the glyceryl monoolein-solvent-phase.

Claim 20 (original): The composition of claim 19, wherein glyceryl monoolein-solvent phase has a liquid crystal structure.

Claim 21 (original): The composition of claim 19, wherein the nimesulide comprises 0.1% to 5% by weight of the composition.

Claim 22 (original): The composition of claim 19, further comprising a non-aqueous solvent.

Claim 23 (original): The composition of claim 22, wherein the non-aqueous solvent is selected from the group consisting of diethylene glycol monoethyl ether (DGME) and ethanol.

Claim 24 (original): The composition of claim 22, further comprising a gelling agent.

Claim 25 (original): The composition of claim 24, wherein the gelling agent is hydroxypropylcellulose.

Claim 26 (original): A process, comprising:

- a. dissolving nimesulide in a non-aqueous solvent;
- b. heating the nimesulide and the non-aqueous solvent of step a to 30° to 90°C;
- c. heating glycetyl monoolein to 35° to 55°C;
- d. mixing the nimesulide and the non-aqueous solvent of step a with the glycetyl monoolein of step c; and,
- e. allowing the mixture of step d to cool to room temperature with constant agitation.

Claim 27 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein a gelling agent is added at a step selected from the group consisting of step a, step c, step d and step e.

*Claim 28 (original): A process comprising:*

- a. dissolving glycetyl monoolein in a non-aqueous solvent;
- b. heating the glycetyl monoolein and the non-aqueous solvent of step a to 30° to 90°C;
- c. mixing nimesulide into the glycetyl monoolein and the non-aqueous solvent of step b; and,
- d. allowing the mixture of step c to cool to room temperature with constant agitation.

Claim 29 (original): The process of claim 28, wherein a gelling agent is added at a step selected from the group consisting of step a, step c and step d.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A method, wherein a composition comprising consisting essentially of nimesulide and 17% to 59% by weight of a glycetyl monoolein-solvent-phase, wherein the nimesulide is in the glycetyl monoolein-solvent phase, is administered to an animal in need of treatment for an indication

selected from the group consisting of pain, inflammation and stiffness in amount effective to treat the animal.

Claim 31 (original): The method of claim 30, wherein glyceryl monoolein-solvent phase has a liquid crystal structure.

Claim 32 (original): The method of claim 30, wherein the nimesulide comprises 0.1% to 5% by weight of the composition.

Claim 33 (original): The method of claim 30, further comprising a non-aqueous solvent.

Claim 34 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein the non-aqueous solvent is selected from the group consisting of diethylene glycol monoethyl ether (DGME) and ethanol.

Claim 35 (original): The method of claim 30, further comprising a gelling agent.

*Concl'd* Claim 36 (original): The method of claim 35, wherein the gelling agent is hydroxypropylcellulose.

Claim 37 (original): The method of claim 30, wherein the composition is administered in a form selected from the group consisting of a gel, a solution, an ointment and a spray.

Claim 38 (original): The method of claim 37, wherein the composition is administered in the form of a gel.